

The American Farmer

- In 2012, there were 3.2 million farmers operating 2.1 million farms on 914.5 million acres of farmland across the U.S.
- U.S. farms are 97 percent family farms. Farm and ranch families comprise just 2 percent of the U.S. population.
- Today, each U.S. farmer produces enough food and fiber for 155 people, compared to 26 people in 1960.
- More than 21 million American workers (15 percent of the total U.S. workforce) produce, process and sell the nation's food and fiber.
- Today's farmers produce 262 percent more food with 2 percent fewer inputs (labor, seeds, feed, fertilizer, etc.), compared with 1950.
- On average, farmers and ranchers receive only 16 cents out of every dollar spent on food. The rest goes for costs beyond the farm gate: wages and materials for production, processing, marketing, transportation and distribution.

Women in Agriculture

- Farms operated by women nearly tripled from 5 to 14 percent in the past 30 years.
- Women in ag-related fields rose 21 percent in the past 10 years.
- In 2012, women farmers in the U.S. totaled 970,000, with 288,000 working as principal operators.
- Women principal operators sold \$12.9 billion in agricultural products in 2012 and operated 62.7 million acres of farmland.
- Women studying agriculture at land-grant universities outnumber men by more than 2,900 students.
- In 2013, females comprised 55 percent of Auburn University College of Agriculture's 1,300 students.



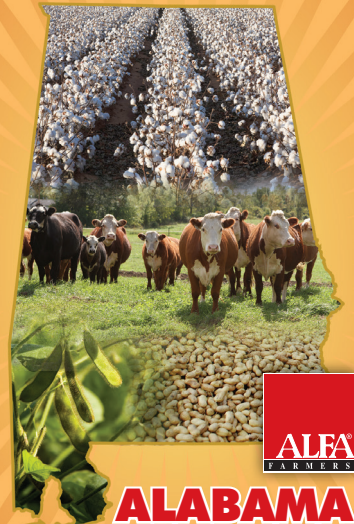
Farming & The Environment

- Conservation tillage, a way of farming that reduces erosion on cropland while using less energy, grew from 17 percent of acreage in 1982 to 63 percent today.
- Total land used for crops declined by 15 percent (70 million acres) since 1982.
- Careful stewardship by farmers spurred a nearly 50 percent decline in erosion of cropland by wind and water since 1982.



Alabama Farmers Federation

A Member of American Farm Bureau Federation
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ALABAMA

Farm Facts

How We Stack Up

Where does Alabama rank nationally?

- Broilers – 2nd
- Catfish – 2nd
- Quail – 2nd
- Forestland – 3rd
- Peanuts – 3rd
- Sod – 3rd
- Pecans – 6th
- Chicken eggs – 10th
- Cotton – 10th
- Blueberries – 12th
- Peaches – 17th
- Cattle and Calves – 27th



Alabama's Top 5 Commodities:

- Poultry
- Cattle and Calves
- Greenhouse, Sod and Nursery
- Cotton
- Soybeans



Alabama Agriculture

- Alabama has more than 43,000 farms covering 8.9 million acres. The average farm size is 206 acres.
- Cotton is the state's largest row crop and is grown in 59 of Alabama's 67 counties.
- Alabama's green industry contributes \$2.9 billion annually to the state's economy and employs 43,000 Alabamians.
- Peaches are the state's leading commercial fruit, two-thirds of which are grown in Chilton County.
- About half the peanuts produced in the U.S. are grown within a 100-mile radius of Dothan.
- One out of every 4.6 jobs in the state is related to agriculture and forestry.
- The queen honeybee is the official state agricultural insect. Bees pollinate 80 percent of flowering crops, which constitute one-third of the American diet.



Forestry

- Two-thirds of Alabama, or 23 million acres, is covered in forestland.
- Alabama has the third most timber acreage in the 48 contiguous states, trailing only Georgia and Oregon.
- Eighty-five percent of timberland is owned by non-industrial private landowners.
- Forestry generates approximately \$13 billion for Alabama annually.
- Alabama forests provide more than 122,000 jobs in timber production and processing.
- For every ton of timber harvested, 1.55 tons of new growth are added to Alabama's forests.



ABCs of Alabama Agriculture

Aquaculture

- The catfish industry's annual economic impact is \$158.2 million.
- Alabama farmers primarily raise catfish, but also farm tilapia, shrimp and crawfish.
- Alabama, Mississippi and Washington accounted for 40 percent of U.S. aquaculture sales in 2013.

Beef

- Alabama is home to 1.2 million head of cattle and calves.
- Cattle are a \$2.5 billion industry in Alabama and are raised in all 67 counties.

Chickens

- Broilers – young chickens raised for meat – are Alabama's top agricultural commodity.
- Cullman, DeKalb and Marshall counties are the largest poultry producers in Alabama.
- Alabama poultry production and processing generates more than \$15 billion in annual economic impact and employs more than 86,000 workers on farms, processing plants and allied industries.